

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (previously presented): A rechargeable nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery comprising a positive electrode which can be doped with lithium ions and de-doped of lithium ions, a nonaqueous electrolyte solution and a negative electrode, wherein a negative electrode active material consists essentially of a carbon material including at least two components:

- (a) flake graphite particles; and
- (b) a non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 10, wherein a ratio of (a) said flake graphite particles is within a range of 10 to 70 wt% of all the carbon materials.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 10, wherein the specific surface area of (b) said non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon is within a range of 0.3 m²/g to 3 [m²/g] m²/g.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 11, wherein the specific surface area of (b) said non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon is within a range of $0.3 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ to $3 \text{ [m}_2/\text{g}] \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 12, wherein (b) said non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon is obtained by graphitizing mesocarbon microbeads.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 13, wherein (b) said non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon is obtained by graphitizing mesocarbon microbeads.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 10, wherein a weight average particle diameter of (a) said flake graphite particles is within a range of $10 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ to $80 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 11, wherein a weight average particle diameter of (a) said flake graphite particles is within a range of $10 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ to $80 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 16, wherein (a) said flake graphite particles are artificial graphite obtained from petroleum pitch or coal pitch as a raw material.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 17, wherein (a) said flake graphite particles are artificial graphite obtained from petroleum pitch or coal pitch as a raw material.


Claim 20 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 10, wherein said carbon material consists solely of (a) said flake graphite particles, and (b) said non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 11, wherein said carbon material consists solely of (a) said flake graphite particles, and (b) said non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 12, wherein said carbon material consists solely of (a) said flake graphite particles, and (b) said non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 13, wherein said carbon material consists solely of (a) said flake graphite particles, and (b) said non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 16, wherein said carbon material consists solely of (a) said flake graphite particles, and (b) said non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon.

 Claim 25 (previously presented): The nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 17, wherein said carbon material consists solely of (a) said flake graphite particles, and (b) said non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon.

Claim 26 (withdrawn): A method for manufacturing a nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery, said method comprising steps of:


applying a slurry onto a current collector; the slurry comprising (a) flake graphite particles, (b) a non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon, a binder, and a dispersion medium;

drying the slurry; and

compressing the dried slurry by the application of a pressure.

Claim 27 (withdrawn): The method for manufacturing a nonaqueous electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 26, wherein a ratio of (a) said flake graphite particles is within a range of 10 to 70 wt% of all carbon materials in the slurry.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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Claim 28 (previously presented): A carbon material composition comprising:

- (a) flake graphite particles; and
- (b) a non-flake graphite material whose surface is covered with amorphous carbon; a

weight ratio of (a) to (b) being 10:90 to 70:30.
